

Diagonalize $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ by a notation

①

We find the eigen polynomial of A by

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{P}_A(\lambda) &= |\lambda I_2 - A| \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} \lambda-5 & 2 \\ 2 & \lambda-2 \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda-5)(\lambda-2) - 4 \\ &= \lambda^2 - 7\lambda + 6 = (\lambda-6)(\lambda-1) \end{aligned}$$

Thus the eigenvalues of A are $\lambda = 1, 6$. Next we find eigenvectors of A .

In case $\lambda = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow (I_2 - A) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0} \\ &\Leftrightarrow 2x - y = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 2x \end{pmatrix} = x \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (x \neq 0)$$

are the eigenvectors of A for the eigenvalue $\lambda = 1$.

In case $\lambda = 6$

$$\begin{aligned} A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} &= 6 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow (6I_2 - A) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0} \\ &\Leftrightarrow x + 2y = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2y \\ y \end{pmatrix} = y \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (y \neq 0)$$

are the eigenvectors of A for the eigenvalue $\lambda = 6$

We choose two unit vectors

$$\vec{r}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{r}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$R = (\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2)$ is a rotation matrix, and

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$$\begin{aligned}
 AR &= (A\vec{r}_1 \quad A\vec{r}_2) \\
 &= (\vec{r}_1 \quad 6\vec{r}_1) \\
 &= (\vec{r}_1 \quad \vec{r}_2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} = R \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

We multiply the both hand sides by R^{-1} from the left to get

$$R^{-1}AR = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We consider the quadratic form defined by A :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (A\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}) &= (R^{-1}ARR^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, R^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}) \\
 &= \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} \right) = \xi^2 + 6\eta^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Here we used the rotational coordinate transform defined by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} = R^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Next we consider Quadratic Curve

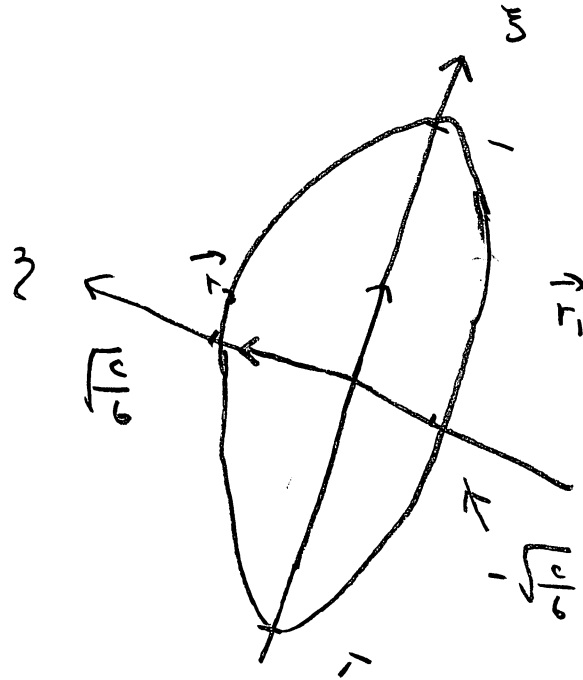
$$A\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c$$

This is expressed in terms of the coordinate system ξ and η by

$$(\#) \quad \xi^2 + 6\eta^2 = c$$

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In case $c > 0$, the quadratic curve $(\#)$ is an ellipse:



In case $c = 0$, $(\#)$ is the Origin.

In case $c < 0$, $(\#)$ is empty.

Diagonalize $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -3 \\ -3 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$ by a rotation. ④

$$\Phi_A(\lambda) = |\lambda I_2 - A| = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda+1 & 3 \\ 3 & \lambda-7 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (\lambda+1)(\lambda-7) - 9 = \lambda^2 - 6\lambda - 16$$

$$= (\lambda-8)(\lambda+2)$$

Thus the eigenvalues of A are $\lambda = -2, 8$. We find eigenvectors of A .

In case $\lambda = -2$

$$A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow -x + 3y = 0$$

Accordingly we find the eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3y \\ y \end{pmatrix} = y \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (y \neq 0)$$

In case $\lambda = 8$

$$A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 8 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow 3x + y = 0$$

Accordingly we find the eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ -3x \end{pmatrix} = x \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (x \neq 0)$$

We define two vectors by

$$\vec{P}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{P}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then $P = (\vec{P}_1 \ \vec{P}_2)$ a rotation and we have

$$A \vec{P}_1 = -2 \vec{P}_1, \quad A \vec{P}_2 = 8 \vec{P}_2$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} AP &= A(\vec{P}_1 \ \vec{P}_2) = (-2 \vec{P}_1 \ 8 \vec{P}_2) = (\vec{P}_1 \ \vec{P}_2) \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= P \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

and A is diagonalized by

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We consider the quadratic form defined by A : ⑤

$$(A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}) = -x^2 - 6xy + 7y^2$$

Since P^{-1} is a rotation

$$(A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}) = (P^{-1} A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix})$$

$$= (P^{-1} A P \cdot P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix})$$

$$= \left(\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} \right) = -2\xi^2 + 8\eta^2$$

Here we used the rotational coordinate transformation defined by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

Next we consider the quadratic curve

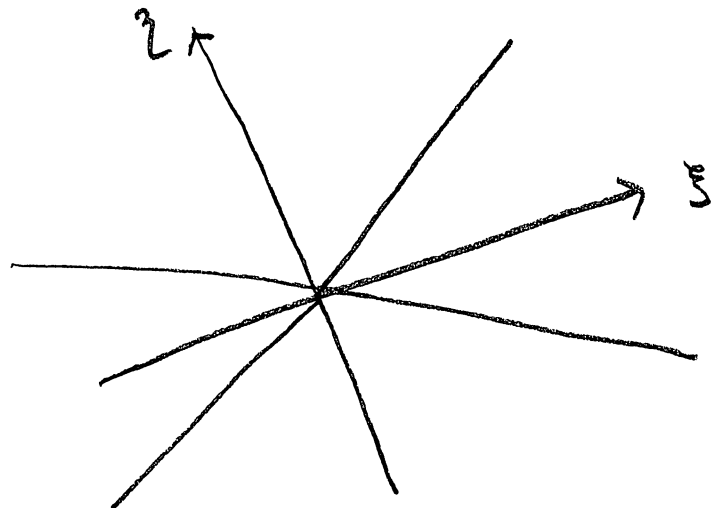
$$(\#) \quad (A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}) = C$$

This is expressed in terms of the coordinate system (ξ, η) by

$$-2\xi^2 + 8\eta^2 = C$$

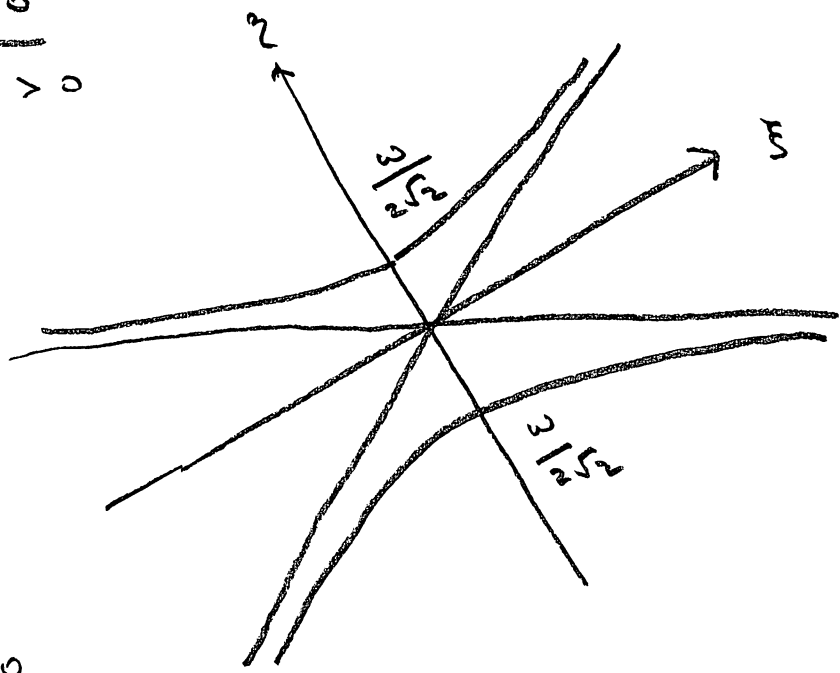
In case $C = 0$

$$(\#) \Rightarrow \eta = \pm \frac{1}{2} \xi$$

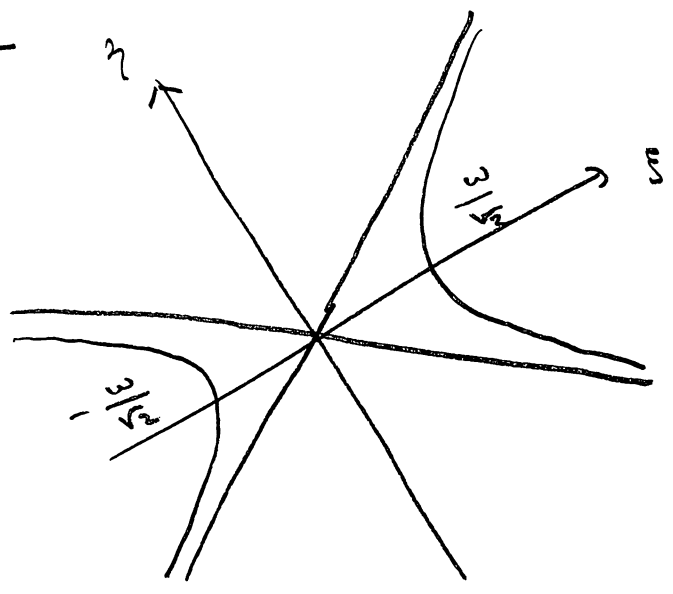


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In case $c = \omega^2 > 0$
with $\omega > 0$



In case $c = -\omega^2 < 0$
with $\omega > 0$



Basic Properties of Symmetric Matrices

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Given a symmetric matrix,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ c & b \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\Phi}_A(\lambda) &= \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - a & -c \\ -c & \lambda - b \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (\lambda - a)(\lambda - b) - c^2 \\ &= \lambda^2 - (a+b)\lambda + ab - c^2\end{aligned}$$

The discriminant of $\bar{\Phi}_A(\lambda)$ is

$$\begin{aligned}D &= (a+b)^2 - 4(ab - c^2) \\ &= (a-b)^2 + 4c^2 \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

Accordingly $\bar{\Phi}_A(\lambda)$ has two real roots $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$.
What is more, remark that

$$D = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = b \text{ AND } c = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} = aI_2$$

Theorem 1. Given a symmetric matrix $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$

Then $\bar{\Phi}_A(\lambda)$ has two real roots. Moreover

if $\bar{\Phi}_A(\lambda)$ has a multiple root, then $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$

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$$p = a = b$$

$$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \infty & = & 3 & - & 4 \\ & & = & & = \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 3 & - & 4 & = & 3 & - & 4 \end{matrix} \downarrow$$

Theorem 2

Given a symmetric matrix $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$

Then A can be diagonalized by a rotation.

Proof. There is nothing to show in case $\Phi_A(\lambda)$ has a multiple root. We may assume that

$$\Phi_A(\lambda) = (\lambda - \alpha)(\lambda - \beta)$$

with $\alpha \neq \beta$. We take eigenvectors $\vec{g}_1, \vec{g}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2$ satisfying

$$A\vec{g}_1 = \alpha\vec{g}_1, \quad A\vec{g}_2 = \beta\vec{g}_2, \quad \vec{g}_1 \neq \vec{0}, \quad \vec{g}_2 \neq \vec{0}.$$

Moreover define

$$\vec{p}_1 = \frac{1}{\|\vec{g}_1\|} \vec{g}_1, \quad \vec{p}_2 = \frac{1}{\|\vec{g}_2\|} \vec{g}_2.$$

Then

$$\|\vec{p}_1\| = \|\vec{p}_2\| = 1, \quad (\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2) = 0$$

$$A\vec{p}_1 = \alpha\vec{p}_1, \quad A\vec{p}_2 = \beta\vec{p}_2.$$

Then $(\vec{p}_1, \vec{p}_2)$ or $(\vec{p}_1, -\vec{p}_2)$ is a rotation $R = (\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2)$, which satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} AR &= (A\vec{r}_1, A\vec{r}_2) = (\alpha\vec{r}_1, \beta\vec{r}_2) \\ &= (\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2) \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix} = R \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Accordingly

$$R^{-1}AR = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Remark Take the determinant of
 $R^{-1} A R = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix}.$

Then

$$|A| = |R^{-1} A R| = \alpha \beta.$$

Thus we have equivalence

$$|A| \begin{matrix} \geq 0 \\ = 0 \\ < \end{matrix} \Leftrightarrow \alpha \beta \begin{matrix} \geq 0 \\ = 0 \\ < \end{matrix}.$$

We consider the quadratic curve

$$\left(A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right) = C,$$

which is expressed in terms of the coordinate system

$$(\#_1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} = R^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

by

$$(\#_2) \quad \alpha \xi^2 + \beta \eta^2 = C$$

(i) In case $\alpha, \beta > 0$

$$(\#_2) \text{ is } \begin{cases} \text{an ellipse} & (C > 0) \\ \text{the origin} & (C = 0) \\ \text{empty} & (C < 0) \end{cases}$$

(ii) In case $\alpha, \beta < 0$

$$C \#_2) \text{ is } \begin{cases} \text{empty} & (c > 0) \\ \text{the origin} & (c = 0) \\ \text{an ellipse} & (c < 0) \end{cases}$$

(iii) In case $\alpha\beta < 0$. ($\Rightarrow D < 0$)

$$C \#_2) \text{ is } \begin{cases} \text{two lines intersecting} & c = 0 \\ \quad \text{at the origin} & \\ \text{hyperbola} & c \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

The following theorem is important.

Theorem 3. Given a symmetric $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$

Then the following conditions $\begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ c & a \end{pmatrix}$

(i), (ii), (iii) are equivalent.

$$(i) \quad \left(A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \right) > 0 \quad \left(\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \neq \vec{0} \right)$$

(ii) The eigenvalues of A α, β are positive:
 $\alpha, \beta > 0$

$$(iii) \quad |A| > 0, \quad a > 0$$